



AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph on page 63, lines 1-8, as follows:

C1 Finally, DNA sequencing was carried out to verify the presence of the correct mutations on the plasmid.

Primer 132011:

5' CGCTTCGGAATCATTAGGATTGC 3' (SEQ ID NO:7)

Primer 132012:

5' GCTTCCGTTTT**GCC**TTAATGGCGCTGC 3' (SEQ ID NO:8)

Primer 136054:

5' GGCCAAGGCTCTACCCGAACGGC 3' (SEQ ID NO:9)

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Please amend the paragraph on page 63, lines 9-15, as follows:

Example 2: Construction of *Bacillus deramificans* E649A variant

C2 This variant constructed as described in Example 1, except that mutagenic primer 132013 is used. The mutagenesis primer 132013 introduced the E649A substitution (written in bold in the primer seq.) and a Nar I restriction site(underlined in the primer seq.), which facilitates easy pinpointing of mutants.

Primer 132013:

5' GCACTTTACGGG**GCGCC**ATGGACGGG 3' (SEQ ID NO:10)